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. . . At a dinner given at the Hotel Cecil, on June 29, by the Society of American Women in London, in honor of Ambassador and Mrs. Reid and Mr. and Mrs. Longworth, Lord Curzon, in a brilliant speech, said "he declined to recognize Whitelaw Reid as a foreign ambassador, but considered him essentially a domestic one," than whom no American at the Court of St. James had ever held a dearer place. In a tribute to President Roosevelt, he said that the President stood "for the continued and unbreakable friendship of the United States and Great Britain, which has ceased to be an aspiration and has now become a tradition." That is very fine talk, and we hope the reality may always be even finer.

. . . The fourteenth Conference of the Interparliamentary Union will be held in London in the Royal Gallery adjoining the House of Lords, July 23-25. Twenty-five parliamentary groups have been invited to send delegates. It is estimated that the attendance will be double that of any previous conference. The Conveners of the Conference, Wm. Randal Cremer and his associates in the British Parliament, are receiving the sympathy and support of the Prime Minister and the Government generally. The *Arbitrator* announces that the arrest of armaments will be the most important question considered by the Conference. The project to make the Hague Conference a permanent institution, and that for a general treaty of obligatory arbitration, will also hold a prominent place.

. . . Peace prizes in the schools and colleges are becoming very common. At the recent closing exercises many such prizes were bestowed in different parts of the country, given by individuals, by boards of trade, or other organizations. The late Delano Patrick of Hopedale, Mass., a life member of the American Peace Society, provided in his will for three annual peace prizes, \$20, \$10, and \$5, to the pupils of the schools of Milford, Hopedale, Mendon and Bellingham, for the best essays on the subject of peace. These prizes he had already been giving, though his name had been withheld until after his death. At the graduating exercises at Milford on June 21 Superintendent Haley announced his name at the same time that the prizes were announced. The winner of the first prize was a Milford boy, John E. Doherty. When the superintendent handed him a bright \$20 gold piece "a storm of enthusiastic plaudits" greeted him. The other prizes went to Miss Gertrude Rockwell and Warren Henry of Hopedale. Twelve essays were presented for the prizes. Mr. Patrick ought to have many followers.

. . . On the 14th of June the Norwegian Storthing chose three members of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to serve for 1907-09. The persons chosen were Mr. Hagerup, professor of law in the University of Christiania, former president of the Council of Ministers; Mr. Loeveland, Minister of Foreign Affairs; and Mr. Berner, president of the Storthing. Bjoernstjoerne Bjoernson retires from the Committee. The two members whose time has not expired are Mr. Horst and Mr. John Lund. These five distinguished Norwegian statesmen, with the Nobel Foundation under their charge, constitute one of the foremost peace agencies in the world.

. . . The Conference called by the Swiss government for the revision of the Red Cross Convention of 1864 met at Geneva on June 11. Thirty-seven nations were officially represented. The purpose of the Congress is to suggest to the coming Hague Conference such changes in the rules of the Red Cross as will adapt it to modern warfare, and facilitate its extension to maritime warfare.

. . . All those who are interested in the teaching of peace in our schools and colleges — and there are legions of them — will find a very able and interesting article on the subject by Edwin D. Mead in the *Outlook* for June 16.

Letters to the Editor.

Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE:

At the twenty-ninth annual Commencement Exercises of the University of Colorado, held at Boulder on the 16th of June, General Nelson A. Miles delivered the commencement oration. His subject was "Our Country and the Responsibilities and Possibilities of Our Citizens." Amongst other things he said:

"Devotion to country does not alone require heroic acts upon the red fields of war. The patriotism of Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman, Gouverneur Morris, Alexander Hamilton and their compatriots was as grand and glorious as that of the martial heroes of that day.

"I cannot better define patriotism than by bringing the illustration home to every citizen. You have the opportunity of benefiting your country by your individual acts or of marring its prosperity by indifference or disregard to its true interests. There is a sacred duty devolving upon every citizen. You can have just as good or just as bad a government as you please, either municipal, state or national, and our only hope rests in the people's devotion to the principles of our institutions. May your patriotism be of the highest order, and its influence felt in every community and in every department of government for the welfare and happiness and progress of our people and the honor and glory of our country.

"I trust that during your lives the spirit of peace may prevail. We have had enough of war, carnage, devastation and desolation. Those who know the least of the hardship and horror of war are its most zealous advocates. It is also a fact that nearly all wars are the result of the selfish ambition of some usurper or cruel tyrant, the intrigue of unscrupulous men or the avarice of a people. Yet wars devastate a country, bankrupt a nation and fill hundreds of thousands of graves with the flower of the nation's manhood, bringing mourning and desolation to happy homes.

"I sincerely hope that within your time the intelligence and wisdom of the people of the world will have so far advanced that there will be established a congress of nations, a grand parliament of reason and justice, that shall consider and decide national and international controversies for the benefit, welfare and peace of nations and the world."

When the students of our State Universities can hear such sentiments as the above from those who speak from knowledge and authority, we can be full of hope for our

great scheme of pushing the work of educating in peace principles the boys and girls in our public schools.

RUTH H. SPRAY.

SALIDA, COLORADO.

Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE:

In an article which you published two or three months ago, I expressed my regret that it was almost impossible to find a school history which did not glorify war and subordinate all the events which it recorded to military occurrences. A reader of the *ADVOCATE* wrote to me calling my attention to the school histories of Prof. Allen C. Thomas of Haverford College, Pa., and I have since procured them, one for middle grades and one for upper grades. I would like to direct the attention of your readers particularly to his larger "History of the United States," for the higher grades. For, while it does not depart sufficiently from the prevailing standards to offend old-fashioned boards of education, it occasionally allows the truth to show itself between the lines. For instance, in a note it quotes General Grant's opinion of the Mexican War, namely, that it was "one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger against a weaker nation." It shows that the moral tone of the country was lowered as a result of the Civil War, and it presents, as a historical fact, the criticisms made by anti-imperialists against the Spanish and Philippine Wars. This is a good beginning, and deserves the support of all lovers of peace. I suggest that we bring this history to the notice of school principals and trustees wherever the opportunity may present itself. It is published by D. C. Heath & Co. of Boston and forms an admirable substitute for the ordinary collections of blood-and-thunder fables which masquerade under the title of American History in our schools, and which are, in fact, rather hysterical than historical.

Yours truly,

ERNEST H. CROSBY.

RHINEBECK, N. Y.

The British Friends and the Prime Minister.

A very interesting correspondence has taken place between the British Friends' Yearly Meeting and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman on the subject of reduction of armaments. The recent Yearly Meeting sent, through its Clerk, Henry Lloyd Wilson, the following address to the new Prime Minister:

"In considering the subject of peace, we have taken note, with thankfulness, of the utterances of the Prime Minister and other members of the government in favor of a reduction of our military and naval expenditure, and we desire to express our earnest wish, first, that some substantial reduction in this expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, second, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

"We believe that the evidence of increasing goodwill between the nations, and the proved capacity of the arbitral methods established by the Hague Convention to resolve questions of great international delicacy, as

also the appalling revelation of what modern war involves afforded by the Russo-Japanese conflict, make the present an opportune time for endeavoring by friendly agreement to relieve the crushing burden of armaments. We are convinced that the cultivation of goodwill between nations and the steadfast adherence to the policy of brotherliness and justice will more and more be recognized as the surest national defense, and that the policy of huge armaments is subversive of these natural relations of friendship, and often proves a direct provocation to war."

To this address the Prime Minister's Secretary sent the following cordial and sympathetic reply:

To the Secretary of the Society of Friends:

Sir: The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for the minute of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, in which the earnest wish of the meeting is expressed that some substantial reduction in military and naval expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, further, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

In view of the opinions expressed by the Prime Minister and his colleagues, it is hardly necessary to repeat that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is in complete and cordial sympathy with these objects, towards the realization of which His Majesty's government are taking all the steps that lie in their power.

The Prime Minister is glad to know that in their endeavors to promote peace and goodwill among the nations the government will have the coöperation of an agency so powerful for good as that of the Society of Friends. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

VAUGHAN NASH.

10 DOWNING STREET, WHITEHALL, S. W.,
MAY 31, 1906.

Mr. Carnegie on Reduction of Armaments.

The *Tribune* publishes an interesting interview with Mr. Carnegie on his recent arrival in London, from which we extract the following passage:

"*Question:* The *Tribune* has been fighting to have the question of armaments, in which we know you are interested, brought before the second Hague Conference. Do you favor the idea of a second Peace Crusade for this purpose, and would you be willing to help by coöperating in the United States? And also, perhaps, by paying a visit to us over here and appearing upon European platforms in support of the movement?"

"*Answer:* I am delighted with the Prime Minister's position on this question, and am certain President Roosevelt would play a prominent part, as he did between Russia and Japan, if opportunity offered. Congress approved this session building only one battleship, needed to keep the present fleet efficient. This is now the policy of the United States — I think one hundred